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| 6. <i>Scomber microlepidotus</i> Rüppell | Mackerel |
| 7. <i>Lates calcarifer</i> (Bloch) | ... Bhetki |
| 8. <i>Cynoglossus</i> sp. | ... Chepti |

REMARKS

In several locally available species slight variations in body proportions, number of fin-rays, scale counts, and coloration have been noticed, which along with their description, bionomics, and ecology are being published in the form of a separate handbook.

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DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY,
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October 31, 1957.

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REFERENCES

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25. PARASITISM OF *OPHICEPHALUS GACHUA* HAMILTON
BY THE COPEPOD *ARGULUS INDICUS* WEBER

Max Weber (1892) originally described the female of *Argulus indicus* Weber from the east coast of Java. The male of this species was later described by Wilson (1926, 1944) from Bangkok (Thailand).

The above species was reported from India for the first time by Ramkrishna (1952) who in his paper referred that the collection of the parasites was previously made by S. C. Bough from the skin of *Ophicephalus punctatus* Bloch from Champahati, a village 15 miles south of Sealdah Station, West Bengal.

On 7 April 1956, during the survey of the fish fauna of Gokalpur Lake, Jabalpur, M.P., 2 specimens of *Ophicephalus gachua* Hamilton were collected from a small piece of fresh water which later runs

to join the lake proper. Both the specimens of *Ophicephalus gachua* were heavily infested with *Argulus* all over the body on all sides and on the fins. The number of parasites collected from both the fishes was 26. The number of male specimens was 17 and the rest were females. On identification these parasites were found to be *Argulus indicus* Weber.

It would appear that *Argulus indicus* is not strictly host specific, but is ectoparasitic on different species of Indian murrels.

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DEPT. OF ZOOLOGY,
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— (1944): *U. S. Nat. Mus.* 94: 552-3, Pl. 22, figs. 34, 39, 48.

26. PELAGIC SWARMING OF *POLYOPHTHALMUS* (FAMILY OPHELIIDAE—POLYCHAETA)¹

(With one text-figure)

While making certain observations relating to the experimental *kelong*² fishing operations being conducted at this research station, I came across an interesting phenomenon which seems worthy of record. Surface collections made in the Gulf of Mannar (approximately at lat. 9° 16' N. and long. 79° 08' E.) during February and March 1958 with the help of a hand net after sunset under a 200 c.p. gas lamp suspended about half a metre above the water surface showed a varying number of small Opheliid worms on different nights. These

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² The 'Kelong' used in this case consists of a kind of lift net in conjunction with a light as lure and operated at night from a raised platform on the sea. Further descriptions of this will appear elsewhere. The author wishes to record here his appreciation of the help rendered by Shri D. Edward Chellappa who is conducting the fishing operations and who was responsible for obtaining the night collections.